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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The Railroad Technical School of Ryazan (54°38'N - 39°40'E) (ЖЕЛЕЗНО ДОРОЖНЫЙ ТЕХНИКУМ) was supported and controlled by the Ministry of Transportation. Its function was to provide technically skilled personnel for posts in the rail transportation network of the USSR. Similar schools were located in other cities of the USSR.

2. Students, both male and female, who had completed Intermediary School (ШКОЛА ДЕСТИЖЕТКА) were eligible to apply for admission. A written examination was given in academic subjects covered in Intermediary School as well as a written political examination. If admitted, the student had a choice of three different divisions: road way engineering, structural engineering, or exploitation (administrative). Course was four years, including required summer practical work in the field. A "technik degree" was awarded upon successful completion of the course.

3. Subjects pursued at the Railroad Technical School included middle mathematics - algebra, geometry and trigonometry, engineering drawing, and courses in railroading principles. Political lectures were a required part of the curriculum, and occupied about 30% of class room time. Periodic written examinations were given in academic subjects, but not on political lectures. Preferential treatment for komсомол or Communist Party members was not evident. Tutoring privilege was available, particularly for older students who had decided belatedly to continue their education after working for several years. It is possible that Communist Party members received special tutoring if it became necessary.

4. Tuition was free, though textbooks, pencils, etc., were not supplied but had to be purchased personally. Students not living with their families were given a stipend of 50 rubles (1938 value) per month the first year, 60 rubles the second, and 60 to 80 rubles both the third and fourth year. During summer field work, three rubles per day were allowed for food and lodging. Upon graduation, students were obliged to work as paid workers for the Ministry of Transportation for a minimum of two years. Choices of jobs throughout the USSR were posted and

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decided by lot, or by rank in class. At the end of the two-year period, the individual could apply for engineering school or enter another profession if desired. The top ranking 5% of Railroad Technical School graduates could immediately apply upon graduation for engineering school if they wished.

5. The Ryazan Railroad Technical School had approximately five hundred students, of whom about 15% were girls. Most came from the Moscow and Ryazan areas, though some came from diverse parts of the country. The school was divided into 17 classes of 30 students each.

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